8th August NASHE'S * PIERCE PENNILESS '

Nashe hath written a book called *Pierce Penniless, his Supplication to the Devil,* being a satirical pamphlet on the abuses of the times

Seeing that now gentle Sir Philip Sidney is dead and no one left to care for poor scholars, Pierce Penniless in despair pens his supplication to the devil, wherein he wnteth mvectively of usurers, the deadly sins of greediness, nigarqlize, and pride (attacking by the way the antiquaries for their rusty wits in so doting upon worm-eaten eld), envy, murder, wrath, and railery, and especially those that rail upon playing For the policy of playing, saith he, is very necessary for a state, since those that are their own masters (as gentlemen of the Court, the Inns of Court, captains and soldiers) needs must spend their afternoons upon pleasure, either gaming, following of harlots, drinking, or seeing a play, of which the last is the least evil Nor are plays evil, though some petitioners of the Council dislike them , for no play encourages any man to tumults or rebellion but lays before him the halter and the gallows, or praises or approves pride, lust, whoredom or prodigality but beats it down utterly, and besides they bring upon the stage our forefathers' valiant acts Thence Pierce passeth to gluttony, drunkenness, sloth and lechery, and so to a discourse on the nature of Hell and the Devil Amongst many others attacked in this book are Dr Gabriel Harvey and his brother Richard

nth August THE COUNT MOMPELGARD IN LONDON

This day Frederick, Count Mompelgard, is come to London, having set out from Mompelgard with his train of servants to travel and see the world They reached Dover two days

since, being much frightened at sea through their unfamiliarity with the waves, and distressed through their frequent horrible vomitings Having landed, noting on the way the wrecks of the Spanish Armada still lying on the beach, they took post horses for Gravesend The journey hath been very wearisome to them by reason of our English saddles, which being covered only with bare hide are painful to strangers and hard to ride upon, especially for the Count who is corpulent and heavy. They are much amazed with the throngs of people m London,